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STATE OF MONTANA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
W. F. COGSWELL, M. D., SECRETARY

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HEALTH REVIEW

May 12, 1926.

SPOTTED FEVER.

So far this season there have been reported to the State Board of Health 12 cases of spotted fever, - not as many as are usually reported up to this date. Three cases occurred in Ravalli County, with one death. The two cases which recovered had each had one dose of vaccine. These were probably cases of spotted fever modified by vaccine. Two cases occurred in Missoula County; both died. One case is reported as having occurred in Mineral County. This case died. This is the first case that has ever been reported from Mineral County. Two cases have been reported from Malta, having been brought in from the country districts. One case has occurred in Wheatland County, one in Golden Valley, and two in Garfield.

No specific cure has yet been discovered for this disease. The fatality rate in the eastern part of the state is low, but west of the divide it is very high.

Drs. Spencer and Parker, working for the U. S. Public Health Service in cooperation with the State Board of Entomology, have developed a vaccine which may prove of value in the prevention of this disease. Over 500 people in the Bitter Root Valley have been vaccinated this year. It will take some little time before the value of this vaccine can be proved. At the present time this vaccine is not available for general distribution. It is not claimed that it is of value after a case has developed.

Physicians are requested to report promptly any cases of spotted fever coming under their observation.

HEALTH OFFICERS' MEETING.

A meeting of local and county health officers and others interested in public health work will be held at Billings on July 14 and 15, two days preceding the meeting of the Montana Medical Association. It is expected that this will be one of the best meetings we have ever held. On the 15th, the health officers will meet with the Montana Academy of Oto-Ophthalmology in a joint session and attend a clinic on trachoma, to be given by Dr. L. Webster Fox of Philadelphia. Cases will be brought in from the Indian Reservations, in the various stages of this disease, for diagnosis and operation. Physicians of the state are invited to attend this clinic. Dr. Fox is recognized as a leading authority on trachoma. Dr. W. R. Morrison of Billings is the president of the Montana Academy of Oto-Ophthalmology, and Dr. M. C. Pfunder of Miles City is secretary.

Dr. A. J. Chesley, health commissioner of Minnesota, Dr. Anderson, health commissioner of Wyoming, Dr. John A. Ferrell of the Rockefeller Foundation, New York, and Dr. E. Franklin Royer, Medical Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, have signified their intention of attending this meeting and will take part in the discussions. A program in detail will be sent out early in June.

CURRENT DISEASE STATISTICS.

Reported for week ending

	May 1,	May 8,
Tuberculosis,	7	7
Smallpox,	1	10
Diphtheria,	3	1
Scarlet fever,	37	50
Measles,	57	106
German Measles,	32	13
Whooping cough,	13	14
Chickenpox,	20	33
Mumps,	6	8
Meningitis,	0	2
Spotted fever,	3	3

W. F. Cogswell,  
Secretary.

WFC/JB



